

Malaria control measures

*434. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN:

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRA SEKHAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether malaria disease is on the increase rather than to have come down;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to control the disease meaningfully and to tone up malaria control measures; and

(c) the number of persons affected by the disease during each of the last five years indicating the number of deaths?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There has been decline in the number of malaria positive cases over the years as is evident from the epidemiological data appended below:—

Year	Malaria Cases	Deaths
2002	1841229	973
2003	1869403	1006
2004	1915363	949
2005	1816342	963
2006*	1668798	1487

* Provisional (upto December)

Government of India is implementing the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme including malaria that includes three pronged strategies namely, (i) Disease Management including early case detection and prompt treatment, strengthening of referral services, epidemic preparedness and rapid response, (ii) Integrated Vector Management including indoor residual spraying with insecticide in selected high risk areas, use of insecticide treated bed nets, promotion of larvivorous fish, use of larvicides

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and source reduction through minor environmental engineering, (iii) Supportive Interventions including Behaviour Change Communication, Public Private Partnership and Inter-sectoral convergence, Human Resource Development through capacity building, operational research including studies on drug resistance and insecticide susceptibility, monitoring and evaluation through periodic reviews/field visits and web based Management Information System.

Government of India has introduced rapid diagnostic tests for early detection and complete treatment of *Plasmodium falciparum* malaria. In areas resistant to conventional anti-malaria drug Chloroquine, Government of India has introduced Artesunate+Sulphadoxinepyremethamine combination therapy. The supervision and monitoring of the programme has been intensified by involving National Institute of Malaria Research and other Indian Council of Medical Research Institutions.

Government of India is providing additional support to high *Plasmodium falciparum* malaria endemic States including North-Eastern States, Orissa, West Bengal and Jharkh and since July, 2005, under Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) supported Intensified Malaria Control Project. The Government of India is also providing additional support to other high malaria endemic States under World Bank assistance (Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Orissa and Jharkhand).

Declining sex ratio

†*435. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY:
SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the present sex ratio in the country and the position of the country in the world in this regard;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been sharp decline in sex ratio in 80 per cent districts of the country this year;

(c) the States having sex ratio less than national level alongwith the sex ratio in these States;

†Originat notice of the question was received in Hindi.